

Please amend this application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please ~~rewrite~~ the first paragraph on page 9 of the specification in its entirety as follows (the changes in these Claims from the previous version to the rewritten version are shown in Appendix A, with brackets for deleted matter and underlines for added matter):

Perspective and cut-away views of the seal 60 are shown in Figures 7 and 8. The seal 60 is preferably generally cylindrical and has a top portion 64 and a bottom portion 68. A generally cylindrical splined inner surface 76 of the top portion 64 defines an axially extending generally cylindrical opening 72 extending throughout the length of the top portion 64 of the seal 60. Likewise, a generally cylindrical splined inner surface 84 of the bottom portion 68 defines an axially extending generally cylindrical opening 88 extending throughout the length of the bottom portion 68 of the seal 60. The opening 72 defined by the splined inner surface 76 of the top portion 64 communicates with the opening 88 defined by the splined inner surface 84 of the bottom portion 68, thereby extending continuously from the top of the seal 92 to the bottom of the seal 96. The diameter 100 of the splined inner surface 84 of the bottom portion 68 is preferably greater than the diameter 104 of the splined inner surface 76 of the top portion 64. The splined portions are preferably defined by inwardly-projecting splines extending in the axial direction along the inner surface of the seal.